

January 19, 2016

Bob Kautz,
Executive Director
Gina
Director of Program Management
Maine Charter School Commission

Dear Bob and Gina,

During our last review by the Charter Commission we were encouraged to pursue the concept of adding an off-campus program to serve students who could not get to MeANS for a variety of reasons but who were mission appropriate. In particular we are now interested in focusing on the population of students who are pregnant and/or parenting, and are out of school or are not thriving educationally.

At its January board meeting our board agreed that we should take the next steps to get this program approved by the Charter Commission as a Material Amendment. We are including a draft program description and would like your feedback on what the steps are for proposing an amendment of this nature and when we could submit this program for approval.

Several aspects of the program to note are that we would want to have students apply to this program in a separate pool – not by grade level but by their need to be home-based. Each student would have one teacher certified in at least one core-subject area working with them who would be supervised by teachers certified in the other core areas at MeANS. Teachers would be a full part of the MeANS staff, and students would be guided by the same standards that we have developed for MeANS on-campus students. Their educational performance would be measured as part of our performance measures.

Could you let us know what other information would be helpful to the Commission in making its determination? At which meeting in the next two – three months could we get onto the agenda? We will also be looking for start-up funds to help get the program off the ground and any suggestions you might have in this regard would be very helpful.

We have tentatively called this program “Threshold” because by completing their education these students will cross the threshold into a life filled with more opportunity for themselves and their children. Thank you always for your support and suggestions.

Looking forward to hearing back from you. Take care,

Rob Moody, Interim Director

Emanuel Pariser, Curriculum Director
MeANS